

REMARKS

Claims 1-44 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 40, 41, and 43 are independent claims. Claims 1-44 stand rejected by the examiner. Assignee traverses the instant claim rejections.

Assignee's representatives would like to thank examiner Sheng-Jen Tsai for the courtesies extended to assignee's representatives (Charles Shorb, Timothy Wilson, Fonda Daniels, and John Biernacki) during the telephone interview on January 3, 2007. The interview discussed the office action's statements on pages 14 and 15 regarding atomic operations. The interview also discussed a proposed amendment to claim 1 as well as dependent claims 16 and 24. The remarks and the amendments contained herein further summarize the interview.

Based upon our discussion with the examiner, claim 1 has been amended to recite (in combination with its other limitations) that encapsulation of both lock status data and reader data in the shared locking data store allows a hardware atomic operation to operate upon both the lock status data and the reader data as a single unit. This is for use in determining how access to the resource is to be handed. Support for this amendment is found in the non-limiting example on page 6, lines 9-16 of assignee's specification and depicted in figure 5 of assignee's specification.

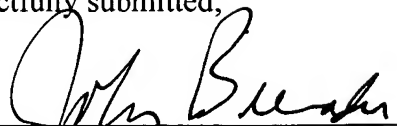
Claim 44 has also been amended to provide additional details of the shared locking data store. Support for this amendment is found in the non-limiting example on page 6, line 9 – page 7, line 6.

For the foregoing reasons, assignee respectfully submits that the pending claims are allowable. Therefore, the examiner is respectfully requested to pass this case to issue.

Date: January 23, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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